

Applicants: David M. Stern and Shi Du Yan
U.S. Serial No.: 09/638,695
Filed: August 14, 2000
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REMARKS

Claims 17-25 are pending in the subject application. Claim 22 has been cancelled. Claim 23 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment be entered. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 17-21 and 23-25 will still be pending and under examination.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 22 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as allegedly being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

In response to the Examiner's objection to claim 22, but without conceding the correctness thereof, applicants point out that claim 22 has been canceled, thereby rendering the objection thereof moot.

The Examiner also objected to claim 24 for misspelling the term "hydrogenase." Applicants point out that claim 23, not claim 24, contains the misspelled term and have amended claim 23 to properly spell said term.

Drawing Objection

The Examiner objected to Figure 6 for not having a heading to indicate its figure number.

In response, applicants have amended the application herein by replacing Figure 6 with corrected Figure 6.

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Summary

For the reasons set forth hereinabove, applicants respectfully request that all the claims of this application be allowed, and that the application proceed to issuance.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone them at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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